Environmental Health Section 13 Updated 4/7/2010 Approved by Joint SHC 5/17/2010

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

All schools should establish and maintain an environment free from toxins, pollutants and hazardous materials.

AUTHORIZATION/LEGAL REFERENCE:

Vermont Act 125 of 2000 -Indoor Air Quality http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/2000/acts/act125.htm

State Board of Education Manual of Rules and Practice, Section 6131 http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/board/rules.html

SUGGESTED SCHOOL NURSE/ASSOCIATE SCHOOL NURSE ROLE:

- Collaborate with administrators, maintenance personnel, health educators and classroom teachers, to: determine if environmental health problems or potential problems exist in the school and/or community; assist with school health management plan.
- Establish a plan of action to mitigate or eliminate, to extent possible, any existing environmental health problems;
- Create a method to manage environmentally-related health questions, concerns, complaints and incidents as they occur.
- Encourage discussion with school health action committees; and promote environmental health awareness through dissemination of resources.

RESOURCES:

Environmental Protection Agency Indoor Environment Division. Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools: Action Kit - http://www.epa.gov/iaq

Vermont Department of Health, Envision Program http://healthvermont.gov/enviro/envision.aspx

Vermont Standards of Practice; School Health Services

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